

CHAPTER 3 - HOUSING INFORMATION

This chapter has traditionally been about housing in the DC area. However, since the trend is shifting toward Host Centers and locations other than HQ, we have also included information on other areas. Some of our class also took their collateral assignments in outside locations, so we've included housing information for those locations, too. Also, look in Chapter 7 of this guide for additional information on housing.

The housing locations for the participants at HQ ranged all over the DC metropolitan area, including many locations in Virginia and Maryland, as well as several neighborhoods in the District. Each location has its own character, advantages and disadvantages. Unless you are familiar with the DC area, the choices can be mind-boggling. Things to keep in mind are proximity to a Metro station (subway), shuttle, bus stop, shopping, restaurants, schools (if you have school age children) and length of commute. Just pull out the old DC area map, familiarize yourself with the layout of DC, talk to current program participants and others who have lived in the DC area, and decide how best to approach your housing selection.

The following includes information on housing that previous program participants selected. Also included, are various personal accounts on living in different areas such as: Sharing Housing in Washington, Oakton & Vienna, Alexandria/Apartment Search services and Furniture Rental, Crystal City, Rosslyn/Courthouse/Clarendon, and Pax River Naval Air Station. Keep in mind that although each class attempts to provide up-to-date housing information, some of the information in this chapter could be more than 5 years old, so it may not be entirely accurate any more, especially with regard to rental rates and monthly expenses. They were included because they can be helpful in providing some additional housing choices.

DC Area Housing | VA Area Housing | MD Area Housing | ARC Area Housing
GRC Area Housing | JSC Area Housing | LaRC Area Housing | MSFC Area Housing
|Other Pax River Naval Air Station Area Housing

DC AREA HOUSING

FURNISHED TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT

**612 3rd Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003**

Two level historic townhouse located on Capitol Hill four blocks from Capital South metro. Situated overlooking Garfield Park, the home is also convenient to places of worship, Eastern Market, public and private schools, and playgrounds. Across the block from Results Gym, the neighborhood is very safe, patrolled by national capitol, national park and metropolitan police. Proximity to Southwest Freeway entrance allows quick access to points south and west of DC.

**For More Information Contact: Mark Uhan – 202-421-5454
Diane Powell – 703-798-1904**

Other Features of the Townhouse:

MAIN LEVEL SPECIAL FEATURES

- Original brick and slate flooring
- Half bath with laundry
- Eat-in country kitchen with 3 windows
- Living room w/exposed wood beams
- New range hood
- Spiral stairway to upper bedrooms
- Spacious, landscaped rear courtyard
- Living room with leather sleeper sofa
- Large coat closet
- Two finished levels
- Brick exterior w/shutters and window boxes
- Ceiling fan in kitchen
- New electronic sealed burner glass top stove
- New refrigerator
- Exposed brick interior walls
- Gas fireplace with slate mantel
- French door to rear courtyard
- Track lighting in living room
- **Historic carriage house property circa 1890 modernized for contemporary living**

UPPER LEVEL

- Master bedroom with full closet and ceiling fan
- Full bath
- Original soft pine wood flooring
- Sunny second bedroom with desk area and full closet
- Exposed original brick walls

FURNISHED TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT

1918 FLOWERING TREE TERRACE

SILVER SPRING, MD 20902

Three level townhouse located just North of the Beltway off Georgia Avenue. Tucked away in a large cul-de-sac with plenty of parking, the property is also convenient to places of worship, shopping, public and private schools, parks, playgrounds, Sligo Creek hiking and biking trails, and both the Wheaton Plaza and Forest Glen Metro Stations. Sunken living room with working fireplace with French door to rear deck, eat-in kitchen, new air conditioner and updated appliances. Laundry room and finished recreation room with level walkout to rear yard.

For More Information Contact: Chris Roberts - 703-847-9826

Other Features of the Townhouse:

MAIN LEVEL SPECIAL FEATURES

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Foyer entry with wood flooring | Three finished levels |
| • Hall bath | Brick front |
| • Large country kitchen with box window | Box window in kitchen |
| • Large formal dining room | New electronic sealed burner glass top stove |
| • New range hood | New refrigerator |
| • G.E. Triton electronic dishwasher | New kitchen floor |
| • Large rear geometric deck | Fireplace with wood mantel |
| • Large sunken living room with fireplace with French door to rear deck | |
| • Coat closet | |
| • Commons area maintenance, snow removal, included | |

UPPER LEVEL

- Master bedroom with private full bath
- Hall Linen closet
- Tiled hall bath
- Second bedroom with generous closet
- Third bedroom with closet

LOWER LEVEL

- Large recreation room with level walkout to rear yard and patio
- New air conditioner
- Recent hot water heater
- Large laundry room .

**Capital Hill - - Union Station -- Red Line
Furnished 2 Bedroom 2 Bathroom Duplex Loft
PLUS a secure parking space**

Call (301)332-9139 for Appointment

Close to Union Station is a gigantic and absolutely fabulous second floor corner unit for rent in an award winning 1890 red-Brick Schoolhouse to condo conversion. See for yourself: [Schoolhouse Charm](http://userpages.umbc.edu/~kterre1/301GstNE.htm); (<http://userpages.umbc.edu/~kterre1/301GstNE.htm>).

Located at 3rd and G St. NE this unit in Logan School Condominium is as big as some neighboring row houses and has lots of character. Dramatic, sun filled floor-plan, 14 ft ceilings, great views from 8 extra large (10 ft) windows, rounded bay TURRET and not 1 but 2 LOFTs and 2 Baths!

Impeccable style is seen throughout this urban oasis:

- * 1275 Sq. Ft. – Incredibly Unique Floor Plan
- * Gorgeous cherry wood and oak hardwood floors
- * Marble fireplace with mantle
- * Exposed Brick
- * Sunken living room and Separate dining room
- * Loft above living room (cozy den/optional 2nd bedroom).
- * Loft above Master Suite
- * Great Master Suite (large walk-in custom closet, hallway, sitting room and staircase to office in a loft above and Master Bath with double brass shower)
- * Gourmet kitchen (upgraded appliances including Jenn Air grill and compactor)
- * Full Size washer and dryer and Generous closet and storage space

This “great place” – is perfect for entertaining. Dramatic lighting, crown moldings, built-in book cases and cabinets, brass fixtures and ceiling fans throughout. Each room nicely furnished to enhance the natural character of the unit. Cable ready.

Includes 1 assigned parking space secure on building property. Just steps to tons of shops, restaurants, and nightlife. Close to the US Capital and House and Senate Buildings; the National Mall, Smithsonian and the Capital Children's Museum. Walking access to all transportation including: Metrobus, Metrorail (red-line), Amtrak, Marc and VA Railway Express. Convenient to all major highways via 395, 295 and Rt. 50.; this ideal setting is close to all DC metropolitan area attractions including to Reagan National Airport and is centrally located for all your needs. No pets or smoking please.

Available: August 27, 2003 1 year (negotiable)

Rates: \$2350 OBO (with direct deposit (\$2400 without), + utils; 1st mnth security deposit

Contact Owner capitalhillcondo@yahoo.com, (301)332-9139 for appointment

Award: Schwartz and Peoples Architects "Citation for Architecture, **Logan School Condominiums**, Mayor's Architectural Design Awards"

<http://www.schwartzandpeoples.com/SandPawardsandpubs.htm>

U STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT ONE BEDROOM APARTMENT

Formerly a 1930's speakeasy, this 1880's Victorian townhouse has been renovated to perfection with 21st century amenities. This English basement one bedroom apartment located at Vermont Avenue and T Street, NW, blends historic charm with modern convenience.

Ideal for the corporate traveler, the apartment is decorated in a chic modern style and features hardwood and marble floors, single person whirlpool tub and available high speed Internet access. Central focus of the living room is a period sofa with two comfortable chairs, a color TV and VCR. A fully equipped gourmet kitchen featuring granite counter-tops, a full-sized refrigerator, stove, microwave and dishwasher overlooks a separate dining area that can seat four persons. Dishes, glassware, cutlery, pots and pans and baking equipment are included. The separate bedroom is highlighted with a queen-sized Cherry finish sleigh bed with matching Armoire, and dresser. Martha Stewart designer linens are used for bedding and ample lighting is provided from both a bedside and floor lamp. A clock radio is provided to ensure you awaken in time to meet your appointments. An attached bath features a luxurious whirlpool tub and shower. No detail has been overlooked and you can move in and entertain on the same day.

SPECIAL FEATURES:

- Historic neighborhood
- Subway access, 1 block from the home
- Elegant furnishings
- Whirlpool bathtub
- Fully equipped gourmet kitchen
- DSL ready (can be set up for long-term stay only)
- Hardwood and Marble floors

LOCATION:

Located at Vermont Avenue and T Street, NW, it is an easy 1 block walk to the U Street subway. There are many local restaurants as well as the African American Civil War Memorial, Duke Wellington Mural, historic Lincoln Theater, the Black Fashion Museum and the Thurgood Marshall Center within easy walking distance. The revived Bohemian Caverns and HR 57 jazz club as well as other nightclubs are located along the up and coming U Street corridor. The tourist attractions of Washington, DC, such as the Capitol Building, Smithsonian Institution Museums, National Monuments, International Spy Museum, National Zoo and all of the sites of Washington, DC are easily accessible by public transportation. For the business traveler, the new Convention center along with the existing Convention, and MCI centers are just 2 and 3 stops away by subway.

Availability: May 1, 2003

Rates: \$1850 (utilities included)

Contact information: Tania Shand, 703/855-2974

For Rent

Basement Apartment 1 Block From NASA HQ

Maureen Yagodka (retired NASA HQ) lives 1 block from NASA HQ and has a basement apartment in her townhouse for rent. It has a separate front and back entrance, is a small 1 bedroom and can be furnished or not. It has a dishwasher, disposal, frig, new tile bathroom, queen size bed. Rent is \$750/mo (negotiable). If you know of anyone who would be interested in a short or long term lease, they may give Maureen a call on 202 488-0927.

NW, DC

2002/2003 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: The Henry Adams House

STREET ADDRESS: 2701 Calvert St NW

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Washington, DC 20008

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: (202) 232-2610

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 30 minutes

METRORAIL STOP: Woodley Park/Zoo/Adams Morgan

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$50

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: 1BD/1BA unit

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: ; Security Deposit: None required, only needed to hold unit for 2 months; There is a \$750/pet fee for one small dog or 2 cats; Average Utility Bill/Month: \$40, Average Phone/Month: \$40, Cable TV/Month: \$40

FEATURES: Very nice unit and roomy for a one bedroom. My unit was on the top floor with a southern window covering the entire wall that provided a spectacular view of the Washington Monument. The unit contained a built in washer/dryer and a storage closet in the parking garage comes with each unit. For an additional fee (\$100.00/month) underground parking was available. It has a rooftop deck, exercise facility, business center, and party room available to tenants and 24 hour security and concierge services.

NEIGHBORHOOD: I loved it! I felt very safe walking home alone even late at night. Nearby large hotels provide lighting and security. Lots of shops, bars, and restaurants within walking distance. Rock Creek Park across the street with paved path for running, biking, etc. Also within walking distance to the National Cathedral.

MANAGEMENT: The staff are very friendly and responsive to maintenance and other needs! The biggest help for me was the fact that they took care of my cats for me while I was off on frequent travel.

COMMENTS: I looked long and hard for a place as perfect as this. The building was brand new when I moved in, so it was fresh and clean.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Jean Bianco

CENTER: NASA Glenn Research Center

2002/2003 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Row House/Townhouse

STREET ADDRESS: 1956 Calvert St. NW

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: Vera Russo - 202-326-1300

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 30 minutes

METRORAIL STOP: Woodley Park/Adams Morgan

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$60

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: 4-story building with one apartment each floor.

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$1750 – unfurnished one bedroom; Security Deposit: \$1650; Average Utility Bill/Month: \$60 – electric only; Average Phone/Month: \$17, Cable TV/Month: \$72 digital cable

FEATURES: Extra large 1 bedroom apartment with tons of windows. Only 4 apartments in building, hence very private.

PARKING: Yes, but I didn't bring my car to DC.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Absolutely awesome! Exactly in the middle between the Metro and Adams Morgan, each only two blocks in either direction. Tons of restaurants to choose from with virtually all-ethnic options available. The house is on the edge of Rock Creek Park, which affords easy access to beautiful outdoors exercise (cycling, running, walking, skating, etc.). Adams Morgan is possibly the best nightlife in all of DC. The zoo is also close by.

MANAGEMENT: I have no gripes. They have been very accommodating.

COMMENTS: I was looking for something close to the Metro, relatively private with easy access to restaurants and nightlife as well as great places to go for a run. The 1800-2000 block of Calvert Street gave me just that. Although the rent is a bit pricey, if you are looking for the city experience, this place is perfect.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Dave Cox

CENTER: Kennedy Space Center

2002/2003 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Residences at Market Sq

STREET ADDRESS: 801 Pennsylvania Ave NW

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Washington, DC 20004

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: Units for rent are posted in the building. I found mine through a realtor.

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 15-20 min/Metro; 25 min/Walk

METRORAIL STOP: Navy Memorial-Archives (Yellow & Green); 1 bl; Chinatown (Red, Yellow & Green); 3 bl; Federal Triangle (Orange & Blue), 3-4 bl

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$50

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: 13 Floors, (top 4 floors are residential, lower floors are commercial with separate entrance). Units are 1-2 BR and 1-2 BA with beautiful views of the city.

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$2,500, completely furnished including TV and VCR) plus \$187 for parking; Security Deposit: \$2,500; Average Utility Bill/Month: \$0, building is heated and cooled to 70 year round. I had a credit for utilities – never did quite figure that out. Average Phone/Month: \$28 expanded local, used cell phone for long distance. Cable TV/Month:0, included

FEATURES: Spectacular wrap around balcony with view of city. W/D in unit, DW, microwave, central air/heat. Carpeted LR and BR, marble entry, tile bath and kitchen. Roof top pool and seating, exercise room, sauna. Nicely furnished apartment including linens and dishes

NEIGHBORHOOD: Pennsylvania Quarter, half way between the Capitol and White House. Very convenient to the National Mall, museums, monuments, restaurants, downtown shopping, MCI and Convention Center. Grocery store access only by car or metro.

MANAGEMENT: Keith Gottlieb

COMMENTS: The cost was steep, but if you are only going to live in the big city for a year, this is a delightful place to live. The view and proximity to the Mall made it worth it to me. The building is very quiet and road noise was limited to an occasional siren. Each unit is individually owned so experiences may vary. The building is very secure with keycard access to building and garage. Security guards are on duty 24-hours a day. A quick 5-minute walk provides you with limitless entertainment and recreation on the Mall. The area would be perfect for those thinking about leaving their car at home. During summer, walking home from work was always rewarded with music filled air and free festivals. After almost a year, I still pinch myself while crossing between the Capitol and Washington Monument on my walk home.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Sharon D. Cobb

CENTER: Marshall Space Flight Center, detailed to HQ

2002/2003 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: The Lansburgh

STREET ADDRESS: 425 8th Street NW

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Washington, DC 20004

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: 888-725-1085; 202-393-1800;

<http://www.thelansburgh.com/>

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 20 minutes (walking or Metro)

METRORAIL STOP: Archives/Navy Memorial or Gallery Place/

Chinatown (Federal Triangle, Metro Center, and Judiciary Square are also within easy walking distance.)

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$45

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: Luxury mid-rise building (11 stories) in the Penn District.

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: Unfurnished units, 1-BR: \$1650 - \$1985; 1-BR w/Den: \$1999-\$2746; 2-BR: \$2199-\$4266; Security Deposit: \$0; Application Fee: \$75; Reservation Deposit: \$500, goes against first month's rent. Average Utility Bill/Month: Water: \$15; Power: \$40-100 depending on season; Average Phone/Month: \$30; Cable TV/Month: Unknown, didn't use.

FEATURES: Concierge, occasional social events for tenants, (happy hour, annual barbeque, holiday dinner), secure building, parking garage, (parking may or may not be included in your lease), laundry & dry cleaning service available, washer/dryer in apartment, indoor pool, exercise room, sauna, residents' business center (copy machine, fax, two computers with Internet access and printer). Branch of CVS (not a very good one) in the building. The Shakespeare Theatre, Jaleo restaurant, a branch of Austin Grill, and a branch of Olsson's Bookstore are also in the building.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Penn District, a rapidly gentrifying part of downtown DC (I considered the immediate area reasonably safe by urban downtown standards, but avoided a few nearby blocks after sundown). Lots of restaurants and art galleries. One block to MCI Center and International Spy Museum. Only a few blocks from Chinatown, Just north of the Mall and all museums and events (e.g., Taste of DC, Smithsonian Folklife Festival, frequent protests and demonstrations) there. Incredibly convenient to nearby everything except grocery shopping (the nearest supermarket is two Metro stops away at Waterfront). Within walking distance (i.e. just under a mile) to NASA HQ.

MANAGEMENT: Generally very responsive.

COMMENTS: Left my car home in Florida. My apartment faced the courtyard and was quiet, virtually no street noise except sirens. If you negotiate a non-standard lease terms, check the lease carefully before signing to make sure that everything was properly incorporated. (I had some difficulties on this point.)

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Merri Anne Stowe

CENTER: Kennedy Space Center

2001/2002 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: NA

STREET ADDRESS: 1500 Kingman Pl, NW

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Washington, DC 20005

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: David Jolliffe, (202) 518-7844

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 30 minutes

METRORAIL STOP: McPherson Sq (Orange & Blue), U St/Cardozo (Green), Dupont Circle (Red)

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$50

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: 2-story, 2BD/2BA, both bedrooms and baths upstairs

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$1950 + \$75 for parking; Security Deposit: \$1950

Average Utility Bill/Month: \$80, Average Phone/Month: \$40, Cable TV/Month: \$41

FEATURES: Small Back Patio, W/D in unit (upstairs), DW, Central Air/Heat + Wall AC units in bedrooms. HW floors downstairs, Berber carpeting upstairs.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Near Dupont Circle, Fresh Fields (whole foods) grocery a block away, Adams/Morgan 30-min walk, 20-min bus ride to Georgetown.

MANAGEMENT: David Jolliffe, (202) 518-7844, owns other rental property in the area

COMMENTS: It's a 7-block walk to the nearest Metro station, which is rather long. Try not to live more than 4 blocks from a Metro station. Schlepping is not fun after 4 blocks, especially in inclement weather.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Odilyn L. Santa Maria

CENTER: Langley Research Center, detailed to HQ

1997/1998 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: 3801 Connecticut Ave. NW

STREET ADDRESS: 3801 Connecticut Ave. NW

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Washington DC

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: Bonnie Jensen - 202-363-3803

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 25 minutes

METRORAIL STOP: Cleveland Park

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$40.00

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT:

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$1289 for furnished efficiency; Security Deposit: \$200

Average Utility Bill/Month: included in rent; Average Phone/Month: \$30

Cable TV/Month: Don't use it

FEATURES: Fully furnished apartment; building has pleasant lobby with coffee and doughnuts every morning and periodic tenant parties, exercise and rec rooms, deck on roof. However, let's not kid ourselves. This is like a long-duration hotel stay.

PARKING: Yes, but I didn't want or have a car here.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Lovely, super-safe, stable city neighborhood, mostly apartment buildings from the 30's through the 60's. Cute shopping district with trendy restaurants and expensive grocery stores in Cleveland Park 5 minute walk from apt; Van Ness shopping 5 minutes; 15 minutes to Metro Center; 12 minute walk to one of my favorite places, the Zoo (Woodley Park).

MANAGEMENT: I have no quibbles. They have been very accommodating.

COMMENTS: I was looking for something easy (move in with a suitcase), well within per diem (this is about \$45/day), safe (people walking around any time of day or night), convenient (near a metro stop), where I wouldn't need a car, since I live in the country and commute 80 miles/day in California, and which felt like a city, but also felt like a neighborhood.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: David Tomko

CENTER: Ames Research Center

SW, DC

2001/2002 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Potomac Place Apartments

STREET ADDRESS: 800 4th St., SW

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Washington, DC 20024

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: 202-484-1111

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 3-minute walk to NASA HQ

METRORAIL STOP: Waterside or Federal Center South

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$0.00

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: High rise complex with north & south sides.

Grounds are well kept. My studio was clean but with none of the amenities such as dishwasher, washer-dryer in the apartment.

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: studio (500 sq ft)/\$789-\$879; executive suite (580-610 sq ft)/\$859-\$929; Jr. 1-bdrm (610 sq ft)/\$929-\$1,019; 1-bdrm (672 sq ft)/\$1,015-\$1,085; 1-bdrm dlx (912 sq ft)/\$1,119-\$1,199; 2-bdrm (972 sq ft)/\$1,229-\$1,299

Security Deposit: \$350.00; Application Fee: \$35.00; Reservation Deposit: \$195.00

Average Utility Bill/Month: Included; Average Phone/Month: \$50.00; Cable TV/Month: \$60.00

FEATURES: On-premises convenience store, fitness center, conference room, Dr.

Office, concierge (front desk) station, laundry room, off-street parking

NEIGHBORHOOD: Two blocks from supermarket and small strip mall; high-rise apartments across the St.; elementary school across the other St. Quiet neighborhood.

MANAGEMENT: Very responsive to tenant's requests for maintenance, etc.

COMMENTS: Very affordable.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: John Childress

CENTER: Dryden Flight Research Center

Sharing Housing in Washington

Washington is one of the most transitory cities in the US. The large number of people on the move has created a shared housing culture that is better developed than in almost any US city. There are many well-run houses in and around the district that can add dimension to the experience.

Advantages:

- Convenience. Plug and play. Most of the homes come with everything but the bedroom furniture and your phone. Makes it easier to get started and easier to leave at the end.
- Cost. Shared housing costs are very reasonable.
- Interesting housemates. There are many professionals in Washington that share housing. This is a great way to meet folks with different jobs and circles of friends. I

lived with a nuclear physicist for the FDA, and the press secretary for a congressman from New Hampshire.

Disadvantages:

- Interesting housemates. There is such a thing as having roommates that are too interesting, inconsiderate, or too noisy. One needs to be choosy. Interview wisely and the risks are minimal.

How To Find A Great Housemate

A housemate finding service can take the hassle out of finding a new home. Fees run around \$50. After a screening interview, the service I used identified several good possibilities. I visited three places before settling on a beautiful row house in Woodley Park, less than three blocks from the Metro.

Roommate Referral Services

Roommates Preferred (highly recommended)

Betsy Neal

202-965-4004

A-1 Roommate Finders

301-805-0100

A-1 Roommate VA only

703-931-1151 or 800-931-1151

Roommate Association

703-519-9350 or 301-470-2027

VA AREA HOUSING

Alexandria Old Town: Beautiful 1812 townhouse offers furnished basement bedroom with two windows and private bathroom with claw foot tub. Large walk in closet. Share dining room, kitchen, living room, patio, deck, washer and dryer. Bus and metro transportation available. Month to month lease. \$1200 includes all utilities, except phone. 703-836-0240

Alexandria, VA

2001/2002 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Millbrook at Mark Center

STREET ADDRESS: 1459 N. Beauregard Street

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Alexandria, VA 22311

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: 703 578-7800

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: Driving – 15 to 45 min depending on traffic. Apartment has free shuttle service to the Pentagon City Metro Stop that runs every 15 minutes for 4 hrs in a.m. and 4 hrs in p.m. 15-min shuttle ride. Very easy to use shuttle and metro – 30-minute total door-to door.

METRORAIL STOP: Pentagon City

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$40 per month Metro cost (totally subsidized by HQ)

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: Beautiful gated community 1,2,3 BR units and townhouses. Complex is about 5 years old and looks brand new. Beautifully landscaped community with beautifully designed 4 story apartment bldgs. Very pretty community with mostly professional couples and singles. Lots of parking and covered parking is available for a fee. Each apartment comes with 1 electronic pass to access gates.

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: 1 bedroom w/fireplace: \$1150.00; Security Deposit: \$500.00; Average Utility Bill/Month: Elect - \$50; Gas - \$30; Water - \$20; Average Phone/Month: Phone - \$20; Cable TV/Month: Cable TV - \$30;

FEATURES: Each apartment has a private balcony, washer/dryer in the apartment, and some units have fireplaces. Complex has a large swimming pool (open only in season), indoor weight room (open all year), indoor basketball and racquetball courts (open all year). Easy access to I-395 (1/4 mi.), and located across the street from Giant grocery, dry-cleaner, McDonalds, Blockbuster video, and several restaurants. The complex is adjacent to the Winkler Botanical Garden with some apartments overlooking the garden (rear of complex). Complex offers courtesy shuttle bus to Pentagon City Metro stop.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Residential apartment community adjacent to office community. Near several retail outlets.

MANAGEMENT: Mark Winkler management/owner

COMMENTS: See Living in Alexandria, Apartment Search services and Furniture Rental write-up. I contacted Altona at Spectrum Apartment Search in Alexandria (800 420-3733) for help finding an apartment.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Thom Arceneaux

CENTER: Goddard Space Flight Center/Wallops Flight Facility

2001/2002 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Huntington Gateway Apartments

STREET ADDRESS: 5980 Richmond Hwy

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Alexandria, VA 22303

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: (703) 960-5401

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 30 minutes taking the apartment shuttle van and metrorail.

METRORAIL STOP: Huntington/End of the Yellow Line

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: Approximately \$120 a month in metrofare. Huntington Gateway Apartment complex has a free shuttle that takes you from the complex to the metro and vice versa. The shuttle runs every 15 minutes for 4 hrs in the morning and 4 hrs in the evening.

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: Apartments have bay windows and are very spacious compared to others in the area. Floors are carpeted. Apartments come with washer/dryer and dishwasher. Plenty of closet space.

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$1255, for 6-month lease on a 1 bedroom; and \$1100, for a 1-year lease on a 1 bedroom. Security Deposit: \$99 move-in special (they usually have this special quite often). Average Utility Bill/Month: Electric - \$50; Gas and Water is included in monthly rental cost. Average Phone/Month: \$30 Cable TV/Month: \$50 (Cox Cable)

FEATURES: Two Hi-rise buildings, security card-key entry to underground parking garage (plenty of parking and a user friendly process for guest parking), security card-key entry to buildings, security card-key entry to shower/locker room in pool area, pool (indoor and out), sauna, tennis courts, racquetball room (rental office provides free loaner racquet balls and racquets), fitness/weight room, patio area with umbrella tables and grills and 24-hour Concierge. Concierge will take laundry to cleaners in shopping center right next to complex. A Cleaners, Enterprise rental car, a beauty salon, a Chinese restaurant and etc. are located in the shopping center next to the complex. The shopping center and townhouses/condos next to the complex are also owned by Huntington Gateway Apartments.

NEIGHBORHOOD: pretty safe area, easily accessible by car to just about everything since on Rt.1 (Richmond Hwy) (e.g. Old Town Alexandria, Springfield VA (Springfield Mall), Landmark Mall, the Pentagon, Pentagon City, Crystal City, downtown DC). Rt.1 (Richmond Hwy) goes all the way to the Potomac Mill mall area and can be used as an alternate route when interstate 95 is congested (going north or south). Many grocery stores (Safeway, Shoppers, Giants), general stores (Wal-Mart and target) and movie theaters are very close by but not in walking distance, only a few miles by car. For the bargain shopper there is a Food Lion grocery store further down Rt.1 South.

MANAGEMENT: ****, four star rating, excellent

COMMENTS: Apartment management sponsored many social events to get to know your neighbors; the Christmas party was very nice.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Donna S. Blanding

CENTER: Langley Research Center

1997/1998 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Cascade at Landmark

STREET ADDRESS: 300 Yoakum Parkway

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Alexandria, VA 22304

COUNTY: Fairfax

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: (703) 461-3636

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 35-40 minutes, including 20 min.

Metro bus ride, 8-10 min. Metrorail ride and 5 min. walk from L'Enfant Plaza.

METRORAIL STOP: Van Dorn Street

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$100, including \$2.90/day for Metro bus and \$2.20/day for Metrorail

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: The 15-story condominium building is 8 years old and has a fully bricked facade outside and hotel-style interior decorating. There are many different unit layouts to choose from (availability depends on move-in timeframe). The apartments are very clean and maintained like new. If the carpet does not look like new, it normally gets replaced. Although all of the units include a washer and dryer, most of them are apartment-style (not full size). I chose to rent a unit that was modified for handicapped tenants, which included an enlarged bathroom, kitchen and full-size washer/dryer. The particular unit I stayed in had a wonderful view of Alexandria. This condominium building is a great place to live. I recommend it for any of you.

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$970 (1 BR / 1 Den); Security Deposit: \$300

Average Utility bill/month: \$65; Average Phone/month \$45; Cable TV/month: \$27

Water Costs \$0 (included in rent)

FEATURES: Access entry (magnetic card provided per tenant), spacious apartments, individual washer/dryer in every unit, tennis court, large living/party room available for all tenants with screen TV, sofas, bar, large dining tables and located on Lobby level (could be rented out for a very reasonable flat rate), large state-of-the-art exercise room (machines and dumbbells provided), outdoor pool, men's sauna, women's sauna.

PARKING: Both, garage with access card and outside parking (for resident convenience) are available. Garage parking for one vehicle is included in the rent, \$45-\$60/month for additional vehicles. Not all parking spaces are the same size - physically looking at the space assigned is definitely recommended prior to agreeing to park in the garage.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Overall, the area is very quiet and very safe. The traffic on Yoakum Parkway is very minimal. As far as convenience, the neighborhood has it all - including grocery shopping at Giant 2 min. away, major shopping malls (Landmark Mall 3 min. away and Springfield Mall 10 min. away), Wall Mart and Blockbuster Video are 10 min. away, 3-4 min. access to highways 395 and 495. The nearest Metro stop is Van Dorn St., located 5 min. away. This condominium building is located 3 min. from Duke St., which leads directly to Old Town 15 min. away.

MANAGEMENT: Very serviceable, flexible, professional staff. Maintenance requests are serviced promptly.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Daniel Levy

CENTER: Kennedy Space Center

1997/1998 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Townhouse

STREET ADDRESS: 517 N. Patrick St.

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Alexandria VA 22314

COUNTY: Fairfax

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: JP Properties, Ltd. 703-938-0909

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME:

METRORAIL STOP: 35 min

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$45.00

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: townhouse
PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$1450; Security Deposit: \$725; Average Utility bill/month: \$60; Average Phone/month \$60; Cable TV/month: \$30
FEATURES: big kitchen, 3 bedrooms (upstairs)
PARKING: 1 parking space behind townhouse, Parking on street
NEIGHBORHOOD: good, however, located on a heavy traffic street
MANAGEMENT: good
COMMENTS: great place to live, great area to live in
THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:
NAME: Tim Owen
CENTER: MSFC

Comments of Living in Alexandria, Apartment Search Services and Furniture Rental

I contacted a lady by the name of Altona at Spectrum Apartment Search in Alexandria (800 420-3733). She was extremely helpful and they offer a free service to help you find an apartment. She finds out from you what you're apartment requirements are (wish list) and they do a data search on their apartment network and print out brochures on each apartment. She provides this to you in a bound folder and it really makes things easy.

She confirmed what other people told me about the area. That is, Alexandria is a good place to stay because it is the least expensive with the nicest units. In addition to hearing that from her and others, I made calls to various units for pricing on 1-bedroom models and here is what I found. Alexandria 1 bedroom apartments range from \$800 to \$1200 (you pay utilities of approximately \$100/mth on some, but some places include utilities) with really good-looking places for about \$1050 to \$1175 (unfurnished). When I called other apartments in different areas (Arlington, downtown DC, Crystal City, etc.) they were all \$300 to \$500 per month more than similar units in Alexandria. In addition, Old Town Alexandria is a really neat place to visit (river-front dining and lots of shops) and there are other areas in Alexandria that are residential with lots of grocery stores and video stores and drug stores and laundries, etc.

I went through the apartment hunters book that was sent to us, focusing on Alexandria, and you can do a quick search that way, but Altona at Spectrum Apartment Search has good insight into trouble spots. For example, she warned me about the "Alexandria Apartments" and upon further investigation (we went there and actually spoke to some residents) I realized that that was not a good place to stay. It looks like a fairly nice place at about \$1100 including utilities, but they gave me a bunch of babble regarding renovating the basic unit to upgrade it. Then when I called back, they had a different story. The bottom line is that they have really ugly apartments but try to sell you a "deluxe" or "executive" upgrade and they come in to upgrade after the other tenant moves out. Timing is critical and one resident told me she tried to move in to find the

apartment still under renovation. This is not something that I would want to have happen. In addition, the apartments are old and the main admin building smelled awful.

“Fox Chase” looked good, and “The Riverside” also, even though the Riverside is a high-rise apartment and I decided that I didn't want to live in a high-rise. If you want to live in a terrific high-rise, check out Huntington Gateway. It was fantastic, if you don't mind living in a high-rise (too much like living in a hotel for me, but you may not mind that. Speak to a lady named Michelle).

Furniture info: Don't try to find a furnished apartment because you can rent furniture for about \$125 - \$200 per month (one bedroom apartment size) and a furnished unit costs about \$500 per month more. As for furniture rental, there are two choices: Aaron Rents Furniture (speak to Craig Campbell 703 941-7195) in Alexandria, or Cort Furniture also in Alexandria. We went with Aaron because it was a little cheaper, but not really that much.

They were both pleasant, but Cort had pre-priced package deals and they seem to cater to more executive budgets. When you go to Aaron, you pick out the living room components, decide which pieces you want, they price each of them, then you move on to the bedroom, dining room, TV and VCR, lamps, etc. I found Aaron Rental (Craig Campbell 703 941-7195) very reasonable.

I rented the following:

Dinning room table and 4 chairs (wrought iron)

Sofa (hide-a-bed), armchair, 1 end table, 1 coffee table (wrought iron)

1 Dbl bed w/headboard, dresser w/mirror, 1 end table (oak)

Rental Cost for above furniture: \$145.00/mth.

The following is an estimated budget for a participant living alone in Alexandria and taking the metro to work. I offer this information for all you ESTJ's or others who want as much information to process as possible:

Rent	\$ 1150
Elect/gas/water	\$ 100
Phone	\$ 30
Cable TV	\$ 30
Furniture	\$ 150
Metro expenses (subsidized)	\$ 0
Lunches in DC (\$7/day)	\$ 150
Dinners and weekend meals	\$ 250
Dry cleaning (partially subsidized)	\$ 50
Weekend entertainment	\$ 200
Gasoline for car	\$ 100
Total expenses	\$ 2210

Arlington, VA

2002/2003 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Arlington Courthouse Place

STREET ADDRESS: 1320 N. Veitch Street

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Arlington, VA 22201

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: www.charlesesmith.com (they manage MANY area properties)

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 35 minutes

METRORAIL STOP: Courthouse (Orange Line)

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$60 – covered by HQ commuting program

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: Hi-rise apartment building (20 stories), relatively new construction (less than 5 years old), 1 Bedroom, 1 Bathroom unit.

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$1558; Security Deposit: Not a security deposit, per se, but about \$300 in fees that were then applied as credits to my first month's rent. \$400 non-refundable fee if you want to have a cat. Average Utility Bill/Month: \$80 (gas, electricity, water); Average Phone/Month: \$45; Cable TV/Month: \$70 (Digital cable + a couple of movie channels)

FEATURES: There are 6 or 8 different one bedroom floor plans (mine at 724 square feet was one of the smallest; the largest is around 850 square feet), and they also have 2 and 3 bedroom units. All of the floor plans come with a washer/dryer, are pre-wired for DSL, and they all have pretty good closet space. Each unit comes with one unreserved parking place in the underground garage (additional spaces are \$50 per month), and there are bike storage cages in the garage (bike storage is free). The building is shaped like a horseshoe, with the bottom of the horseshoe facing east, and the swimming pool nestled inside the "U". Most of the units have balconies, but not all, and some units open directly onto the pool area. My apartment is on the 13th floor on the outside of the "U" facing south. I get lots of great natural light that not only kept my apartment nice and bright this winter, but also kept it warm enough that I didn't have to run my heater very often. I can see the Potomac River and the planes taking off and landing from Reagan Airport from my balcony. The building allows cats, no more than 2 per unit, for an additional upfront deposit (\$400) and monthly fee (\$20 per cat). There is an on-site dry cleaner (good, but pricey), and a deli/convenience store. The building also has a gym with free weights and a cardio theater, and they often have on-site yoga and other exercise classes. There is a business center on the first floor (fax, copy machine, about 6 computers with internet access and a printer), but I've been disappointed with it lately as it appears that no one is properly maintaining the computers (they're often not working).

NEIGHBORHOOD: I loved my neighborhood. There is a movie theater less than a block from the building, lots of great restaurants and shopping just up the road in Clarendon, and a farmer's market every Saturday in the courthouse parking lot just up the street. I'm less than a block from the Courthouse metro station.

MANAGEMENT: Responsive to problems. Friendly.

COMMENTS: This building and neighborhood is a nice compromise between downtown city living and the suburbs---I felt like I had the best of both worlds.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Angie Lee

CENTER: JSC

2002/2003 Program Participant

City, State: Arlington Virginia

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Crystal Towers

STREET ADDRESS: 1600 S Eads St

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Arlington, VA 22202

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: www.charlesesmith.com (they manage MANY area properties)

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 15-20 minutes (three metro stops)

METRORAIL STOP: Crystal City

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$80 – covered by HQ commuting program

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: Hi-rise apartment building

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$1850 + 75 indoor parking for 2-br 2-ba; Security Deposit: One month; Average Utility Bill/Month: included ; Average Phone/Month: \$45; Cable TV/Month: \$125

FEATURES: Gym, valet, Internet café, convenience store

NEIGHBORHOOD: Crystal City. Very convenient. Not too pretty

MANAGEMENT: Responsive to problems. Friendly

COMMENTS: Expensive, but convenient

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Ken Hunt

CENTER: ARC

2001/2002 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: The Lenox Club

STREET ADDRESS: 401 12th St. S

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Arlington, VA 22202

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: (703) 418-0130

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 35 min by metro to Federal Center SW (that's about equal going either by Yellow Line transferring to Blue Line at L'Enfant Plaza, or Blue Line all the way around)

METRORAIL STOP: Pentagon City (closest) or Crystal City (most sheltered for bad weather)

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: Pentagon City metro: \$1.10 x 30 x 2 = \$66.00

CRYSTAL CITY METRO: \$1.15 x 30 x 2 = \$69.00

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: I call it 'the hotel' – it has many great amenities, including indoor pool, hot tub, sauna, two rooms with exercise equipment, an aerobics class and yoga class. Nice, big party room and deck on top floor (killer view of the Pentagon and monuments across the Potomac from there...). Conference table room on top floor. 22 floors. Underground parking. Small deli, dry cleaners, florist in building.

Concierge available to help residents with reservations. Outdoor grills on small patio /garden area.

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: I pay \$1444 for 1 bedroom/1 bath and 1 unreserved parking spot. Varies considerably.

Security Deposit: \$100. Also, Utility Deposit: \$100. Application fee: \$50. Non-refundable Amenities Fee (one-time charge for use of all facilities): \$400

Average Utility Bill/Month: \$35. - \$50; Average Phone/Month: Well that varies. Verizon is the local phone service. Cable TV/Month: ~\$55. Comcast is the cable provider.

FEATURES: My apartment has a washer/dryer in the apartment, not sure if all do. Sprinkler and alarm systems in all units. GE appliances, but they are kind of cheap. Eight-inch concrete walls encompass each apartment for fire protection and noise control. It IS quiet. I do not have a balcony. It's very close to 2 malls. Pets: 3 birds/1 cage maximum; 2 cats (spayed/neutered and declawed) maximum - \$30. Non-refundable deposit for cats + \$20/month/cat. Security is good with 24 hr person at a front desk.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Mostly high-rises. Near Jeff Davis Highway and 395. I am on the 11th floor, and noise isn't bad.

MANAGEMENT: Forest City Management. Very responsive to requests. I have had no trouble – only help.

COMMENTS: I have been very happy with this choice, but nothing is perfect, as the utilities are noisy.

Apartments.com <http://apartments.com/> lists lots of pix, floor plans, and info for the Lenox Club under rental apartments, Crystal City in the Washington DC area (Arlington County). There isn't a good URL otherwise.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: really... Faith Vilas and Lenox Club literature

CENTER: Johnson Space Center

2001/2002 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Avalon at Arlington Square

STREET ADDRESS: (located right at the on ramp of exit 7 to I-395 and Glebe Road) 2350 26th Ct.

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Arlington, VA 22206

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: (703) 217-0925

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 15-20 min. by metro to L'Enfant Plaza (4 to 5 minutes by car to Pentagon city, 7-8 minutes Yellow Line Metro to L'Enfant Plaza, 4 to 5 minutes walk to HQ). Can also take free Metro bus for residents from complex to Pentagon, then one stop on Metro to L'Enfant Plaza. Can also transfer at L'Enfant from Yellow to Blue line to Federal Center SW and walk 2 or 3 minutes to HQ (or can take Blue Line all the way from Pentagon City all the way around). I drove in the summer and it usually took only 8 to 10 minutes, but after Labor Day it could take anywhere from 15 to 45 minutes, it's only 3.5 or 4 miles from complex to HQ, but gridlock is too unpredictable.

METRORAIL STOP: Pentagon City (closest) or Pentagon (also close and where Metrobus stops)

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: Pentagon or Pentagon City metro: $\$1.10 \times 30 \times 2 = \66.00 , Metro subsidy cover it, and now Metro bus is free to residents of complex.

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: A new 4 story rental community in 2001 (still building in 2002) with "on-level" secure parking garage uses a "neighborhood" concept with a village green, a Village Center and retail businesses in a small "downtown" area (deli, hair salon, dry cleaners, maid services, florist, etc.). The complex features a combination of one to three bedroom apartment homes with optional lofts and sunrooms, as well as two and three bedroom town homes. The 13,700 square foot Village Center has a clubroom with fireside lounge area, a juice/coffee bar, a nice big party room, fitness center with Cardio-Theater, an indoor basketball court, a swimming pool with sundeck, a business center with high-speed Internet access and a conference room. There is a controlled access and gate system, just minutes to Pentagon City and Metro, 24-hour maintenance response, residences feature full-size washer/dryers, gas heating and cooking, upgraded kitchen cabinets, private balconies/patios, spacious closets, and intrusion alarms. Options include gas fireplaces, attached/breezeway garages, lofts, vaulted ceilings, and oval soaking tubs. Amenities include indoor pool, hot tub, sauna, two rooms with exercise equipment, an aerobics class and yoga class. Outdoor grills on small patio /garden area.

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: 1BR/1BA to 2BR/2BA from \$1325 to \$1645 per mo. I pay \$1685 for 2 BR/2 BA with water, trash, 1 indoor on-level garage parking spot, including extra rent for dog. Security Deposit: \$250. Application fee: \$100. Amenity Fee (one-time charge for use of all facilities): \$400. Average Utility Bill/Month: Gas \$20-25 mo. (Washington Gas), electricity about \$70-90 per mo. (Dominion Virginia Power) Average Phone/Month: Around \$25 for basic Verizon phone service, but we also have Cingular cell phones for long distance. Cable TV/Month: ~\$38.39 for digital cable to 1 TV, and regular cable to 2 other TVs (ComCast)

FEATURES: Apartments have a washer/dryer in the apartment, on-level covered parking garage, ceiling fans in master bedroom, sprinkler and alarm system, microwave, dishwasher, wine rack, patio or deck, landscaped courtyards with gas grills and picnic/patio areas.

It's very close to Pentagon City Mall, Crystal City Mall, Potomac Yard Shopping Center, a new Giant Food store(1/4 mile), nice fresh seafood market across street, Pentagon Row Shopping Center (Harris Tweeter Grocery Store), Shirlington shopping, theater and restaurants, and Ballston Mall is a few minutes away.

Pets: One reason we selected Avalon is because they allow dogs, which is rare. On-time Pet fee: \$500 + \$25/month for dogs.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Older blue collar area, mostly apartments, and some low income. Near I-395 and Glebe Road. On the 3rd floor in an outside apartment facing a busy intersection, and noise from traffic can be bothersome (not for me, but for my wife)!!

MANAGEMENT: Avalon is huge rental Management Company and can be cumbersome and non-responsive to requests. They do have a policy to respond in 24 hours to service requests, but we have had problems. They will compensate you for poor service.

COMMENTS: Generally, I have been very happy with this choice. The location is great, you can generally run into the District very easily, and is very convenient to many other great locations – Old Town Alexandria, Ballston, Shirlington, Springfield, Falls

Church, Rosslyn, Annandale, etc. Be careful to locate in an inside (courtyard facing) apartment to avoid traffic noise if you are close to Glebe Road. Some problem with cars left parked on street and walking on street late at night. Be sure to ask about rental specials and discounts.

Apartments.com <http://apartments.com/> has pictures, floor plans, info for the Avalon at Arlington Square under rental apartments, in the Washington DC area (South Arlington County).

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Dennis Griffin

CENTER: Marshall Space Flight Center, detailed to HQ

1997/1998 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Bella Vista Condominium

STREET ADDRESS: 1211 S. Eads

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Arlington, VA (Crystal City / Pentagon City)

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: N/A - listing of available rentals at front desk

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME:

METRORAIL STOP: Pentagon City

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST:

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: available - 1, 1+den, 2 bedroom

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: 950, 1100, 1600; Security Deposit: privately owned – negotiable; Average Utility bill / month: included; Average Phone / month \$25

Cable TV / month: \$25

FEATURES: carpet, kitchen, washer/dryer, pool, exercise room

PARKING: garage below building - one space included w/ each condo unit

NEIGHBORHOOD: high rise - Crystal City

MANAGEMENT: 24-hr. desk attendant

COMMENTS: convenient, clean, 5-10 min. to national airport

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Ron Mueller

CENTER: Kennedy Space Center

1997/1998 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Crystal Plaza Apartments, Crystal City in Arlington Virginia

STREET ADDRESS: 2111 Jefferson Davis Highway

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Arlington, Virginia 22202

COUNTY: Arlington

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: 703-415-0660

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 20-30 minutes, includes 5 minute walk to Crystal City Metro stop, 15-20 minutes on metro (Crystal City to L'Enfant Plaza or Federal Center SW), and then 5 minutes to NASA building

Commuting cost: Round-trip \$2.20/day to L'Enfant Plaza; \$2.40/day Federal Center SW.

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: One bedroom, one bath, living and dining areas. Large balcony. Lots of closet space.

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$944.00

Security Deposit: None.

Average Utility bill/month: Utilities included in rent.

Average Phone/month: Basic service:

Cable TV/month: Basic service: \$33.00

FEATURES: Access to two underground shopping areas from garage level: closest (within 50 feet of apartment exit) includes grocery, drug, and bookstores. Security doors, security guard. Laundry and exercise rooms on garage level.

PARKING: Free underground parking for one vehicle per apartment.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Safe neighborhood so far. Lots of high-rise apartment and office buildings. Near multi-level Pentagon City mall and restaurants.

MANAGEMENT: Congenial and helpful.

COMMENTS: Older apartment, but well maintained. One of several Charles E Smith properties in Crystal City; Smith sponsors community events, tours/trips, classes, etc. Avoid apartments that are next to the garbage chute or elevator.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Barbara Brown

CENTER: Kennedy Space Center

Life in Crystal City

It has been said that Crystal City is "Concrete City" - a small part of Arlington that is dominated by high-rises (office buildings and apartment complexes). When I first started apartment hunting, I decided that convenience and short commute would be a high priority (right up there with safe neighborhood and underground parking) so I looked at areas that had apartments close to metro stations. Convenience is the main reason that one would choose Crystal City.

It helped that I have been to DC several times over the past few years and often stayed in Crystal City. During the orientation trip, I did not have a rental car so Crystal City was very convenient to start my search. Since I did not have a car, I walked around the area.

For convenience you can't beat Crystal City - only 3 or 4 metro stops from NASA HQ (depending on whether you are up to a three block walk or a one block walk). The Underground Mall (stretches from 15th to 23rd) is a moderately sized mall with many stores including a Rite Aid (pharmacy), Radio Shack, Kinko's, office supplies store, camera shop, shoe repair store, shoe stores, several beauty salons, bookstore (B Dalton), etc., etc., etc. Disadvantage: stores close at 6 PM and 7 PM. And only some stores are opened on Saturdays and almost none on Sundays.

If you are looking for something more cosmopolitan in a shopping mall, Pentagon City Mall is a 10 -15 minute walk. For metro riders, it is the next metro stop going north and you can take either the yellow or blue line which run through Crystal City. For drivers,

there is free parking at Pentagon Centre (across from Pentagon City Mall) if you stay 3 hours or less. Pentagon Centre has a Best Buy, Marshalls, Linen 'N' Things, Borders and a few restaurants (California Pizza Kitchen, Chevy's, Fresh Choice, Starbucks Cafe). There is also a movie theater at Pentagon City Mall. Across from Pentagon City Mall (south side) is a big ballpark. South of the park is a branch of the Arlington County Public Library.

Grocery shopping at the Safeway in Crystal City can be accessed by walking through the Underground Mall (it's by 20th Street) or by driving from 15th to US1 (Jefferson Davis) going south, left on 23rd and then U-turn into parking area. There is free parking if you go for one hour or less and get your receipt stamped by the store. There is also a Giant on South Glebe, which is about 5 miles away.

Crystal City offers a huge selection of many fine restaurants - from 23rd Street starting at Jefferson Davis (US1) and going west there are a bunch of restaurants all next to each other. Concept is somewhat similar to 14th Street in Adams Morgan where you can find just about every kind of food - from a Subway to Japanese, Thai, Italian, Chinese or French, to name a few. The Chevy's at Pentagon City Mall is fairly good Mexican. The China Gourmet Cafe in the Underground Mall offers an all-you-can-eat buffet Monday through Friday (4 PM - ? PM) with the purchase of a \$3.60 drink. Washington National Airport is the next metro stop going south. You can take either the yellow or blue line. Door-to-door is about 20 minutes.

There is next to non-existent traffic on Crystal Drive but once out on the main roads, it becomes like any other major city traffic. There is easy access to I-395, George Washington Parkway and Route 110.

There are many high-rise apartments in Crystal City, mostly managed by Charles E. Smith Co., 15th Street. Start at the Marriott Crystal Gateway at Eads and walk south on Eads to 23rd, go east and then come up Crystal Drive. You should pick up nearly all the apartment complexes that have rentals. The shortest term is 6 months and they add a premium if the lease is for less than that. Olde Town Alexandria (south of Crystal City) is also very close.

Life in Rosslyn and Courthouse/Clarendon - Just Across the Bridge

When some of us began looking for places to live in the Washington DC metropolitan area, we had very little idea of what each of the potential areas would be like. Should we live in the district itself, with its convenience and excitement, but also congestion and potential crime problems? Should we choose Alexandria, with its rich history and beautiful waterfront, and accept a much longer commute?

A nice alternative is the Rosslyn and Courthouse/Clarendon area of Arlington, Virginia, which for those who aren't aware, was originally part of DC. The most well known part

of Rosslyn is an area with high-rise office buildings a few blocks square; high-rise county buildings and apartment buildings also dominate the area immediately around Courthouse, but it quickly transitions into an older, more eclectic neighborhood as you proceed to Clarendon. The main street running east/west from Rosslyn to Clarendon is Wilson Boulevard, and the Metro's Orange line runs immediately underneath it. As a consequence, the areas immediately surrounding the metro stations definitely have the typical "Metro-corridor" appearance and feel, but just a few blocks further out will find you in an older residential area with lots of red bricked single-family homes.

The Rosslyn Metro is on both the orange and blue lines, which means that you can take any train that passes through into downtown. For one participant who lived there, the commute, including a 7-8 minute walk to the Metro trains, was 25 minutes door-to-door. The Orange and Blue lines split at Rosslyn, and the Orange line only services Courthouse and Clarendon. Maybe not quite as convenient as Rosslyn (you have to wait on an Orange train, because Blue won't get you all the way home), but still not a bad commute at 30-35 minutes door-to-door.

The Rosslyn/Courthouse/Clarendon section of Arlington is a nice mix of suburbia and big city—you get the best of both worlds. Shopping, restaurants, and movie theaters (the Courthouse complex) are within easy walking distance from most of the area. Clarendon is especially known for it's eclectic mix of restaurants and shops, everything from Pottery Barn and Starbucks to Vietnamese dress shops and every cuisine you can imagine. Georgetown is just over the Potomac from Rosslyn, only a 15-minute walk across the Key Bridge. Driving is fairly easy in this section of Arlington, as many of the major shopping areas and restaurants offer at least some off-street parking, and there is easy access to Routes 50, 110, George Washington Parkway, and Interstates 66 and 395. And, unlike many of the DC neighborhoods, you can choose from several different grocery stores that are all within easy access, including a Whole Foods in between the Clarendon and Courthouse metro stations.

For those bicycling enthusiasts and runners, the Mount Vernon trail (which meanders along the Potomac for 19 miles to George Washington's home) is less than a 5-minute walk from downtown Rosslyn. Roosevelt Island, which has some nice hiking trails, is only a 15-minute walk.

In addition to the high-rises along the Metro-corridor, there are many small, older apartment buildings in Rosslyn along Key Boulevard and side streets. Some of these places advertise primarily by signs, so when looking for an apartment, a drive around the local area would be especially fruitful. In conclusion, be sure to give Rosslyn and Courthouse/Clarendon a look - it's a great place to live.

Annandale, VA

1997/1998 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Oak Hill Subdivision
STREET ADDRESS: 8402 Georgian Way
CITY, STATE, ZIP: Annandale, VA 22003
COUNTY: Fairfax Office
RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: Not applicable
DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 45 min. (average)
METRORAIL STOP: Dunn-Lorring
TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$120/3 months parking at HQ + gas
DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: Single family unfurnished home, owners were on TDY for the same time frame as my assignment.
PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$1750/month; Security Deposit: First month's rent plus \$250.00 pet deposit (3 cats); Average Utility bill/month: \$200 (includes electricity, gas, and water); Average Phone/month: \$15; Cable TV/month: \$41.57 Basic and Expanded Service (Media General Cable
FEATURES: Four bedroom, 3 ½ bath home with full finished basement and one car garage. Beautiful neighborhood, ideal for children. Good school district that was very important since I have a daughter in sixth grade. My husband, daughter, and cats joined me for the year.
PARKING: One car garage, driveway, and street parking
NEIGHBORHOOD: Fairfax County outside the beltway, very close to Fairfax City. Good safe community, very friendly neighbors.
MANAGEMENT: Personal Touch Property Management, B. J. D'Urso, (703) 644-5872
COMMENTS: Life outside the beltway seemed to be more like home (suburbia). Inside and outside the beltway seemed like different worlds at times. If I had not brought my family and pets I would definitely have lived closer to work though. Looking for a church was an eye opening experience too. In Alabama a Baptist church is pretty much a Baptist church, mostly all Southern Baptist. We found that not to be the case in the Northern Virginia area. We did find a church that was very much like we were accustomed to named Parkwood Baptist on Braddock Rd in Annandale, VA. I drove in and parked at HQ everyday, easy commute I took Hwy. 236 to I-395 straight into work. Morning commute was 30 minutes, but afternoon would vary depending on what time I left work.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Nancy J. Gibson

CENTER: Host Center - Headquarters, Home Center – Marshall Space Flight Center

Fairfax, VA

2000/2001 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Summit Fair Lakes
STREET ADDRESS: Fields Brigade Rd.
CITY, STATE, ZIP: Fairfax, VA 22033
RENTAL OFFICE PHONE:
DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 45-50 minutes via Metro Rail
METRORAIL STOP: Vienna (End of orange line)
TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$3.30 each way; \$120/month

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: 1 or 2 Bedroom Units or 2 Bedroom w/loft and garage townhouses

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$1,850 for townhouse

Security Deposit: Redecoration Fee (\$300)

Average Utility Bill/month: Virginia Power - about \$90.00, Virginia Natural Gas about \$80.00. Average Phone/month: Bell Atlantic basic bill is about \$25.00 (not including long distance). Cable TV/month: extended basic cable with Cox Cable is about \$28.00, basic cable is about \$8.00.

FEATURES: Very new apartments, with outstanding amenities. Nice exercise facility, with an indoor basketball court. Very nice clubhouse where they have a small theatre available at no cost to watch sports, movies, or rentals with friends or family. Computer available with free e-mail. Has a conference room available for meetings or get togethers. Free movie rentals from office. Nice large pool. Apartment complex has a nice walking/biking trail around a nice lake and through woods (very fun and safe for families). Extra nice is the free shuttle bus that runs from apartment to Vienna Metro, and vice versa. No need to drive car to Metro.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Apartments are in very nice Fair Lakes community of Fairfax County Parkway. Plenty of retail stores, restaurants, grocery stores, movie theatres, and churches within 1-2 miles. Greenbriar East Elementary School is nearby. Located right off Exit 55B of I-66 West.

MANAGEMENT: Outstanding. Customer service is unsurpassed. They hire snowplows for complex, and employees salt and blow snow from walkways to prevents slips.

COMMENTS: This may be far out for some, but the community is exceptional for families. Parks are everywhere. Safe and exceedingly well maintained. Bike and walk trails all around, and can walk or ride to stores.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Tracy Lamm

CENTER: MSFC; on assignment to DC

1997/1998 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Regent's Park

STREET ADDRESS: Lee Highway (Rt. 29) at Nutley Rd. intersection

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Fairfax, VA 22031

COUNTY: Fairfax

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: (703) 352-0300

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 10 minute walk to/from Vienna Metro, 35 minute train to/from Federal Center SW, 5 minute walk to/from HQ, 35 minutes by car.

METRORAIL STOP: Vienna on Orange Line

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: $2 \times 3.15 \times 30 = \189

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: Multiple four-story buildings with open breezeway stairs to upper levels, no elevators. Swimming pool, fitness center, racquetball court, on-site business center (computers, copiers, faxes...). Built in 1997, we were the first occupants in our building.

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$1195; Security Deposit: \$0, \$150 clean-up fee due at lease termination; Average Utility bill/month: \$80 (warm) to \$135 (cold)

Average Phone/month \$27 (not including long-distance); Cable TV/month: \$16 for broadcast channels only, \$38 for basic cable

FEATURES: Two Bedrooms, two baths, dining room, living room, patio, kitchen with eating bar and laundry room off kitchen. Nice layout, many floor plans available.

Secured entry to parking, but solicitors still manage to find a way on premises.

Overhead sprinklers save on renter's insurance premiums. Ten-dollar credit on rent if paid before the first of each month. Accepts major credit cards for rent, though ten-dollar credit not applied.

PARKING: Free, unlimited, unassigned spots in front of each building. Limited under-building slots available for \$10/month.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Typical suburban. Nearby hiking/biking trail (W&OD). No convenient stroller access to adjoining neighborhoods, but plenty of nearby parks.

Good restaurants, conveniences nearby. Central to Vienna, Fairfax, and Oakton. Felt safe in nearby parks with our young child. Many families in complex, and in adjoining neighborhoods.

MANAGEMENT: Not the most organized, but capable. They lack good communication skills, e.g. will store mail packages in the office, but don't notify you upon arrival!

COMMENTS: Vienna and Oakton were our favorite places to shop and dine. Lots of old neighborhood charm.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Frank Peri

CENTER: Langley Research Center

Franconia/Springfield, VA

1998-1999 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Springfield Station

STREET ADDRESS: Junction Blvd.

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Springfield, Virginia 22150

COUNTY: Fairfax

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: (703) 313-4450

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 45-50 minutes by Metro (including driving to Metro, parking, waiting for trains, switching trains, and walking to Headquarters), 20 - 25 minutes by car (if you leave before 7:00am), 35 - 45 minutes by car at rush hour.

METRORAIL STOP: Franconia/Springfield

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: The metro is \$2.95 each way plus \$2.25 for parking. Total daily cost is \$8.15. Total monthly cost is \$179.30 (22 days). Gas costs is negligible because the station is so close to the complex. You can save \$2.25 a day by walking to the station (less than a mile), but this adds to your commute time.

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: Brand new unfurnished apartments in gated community. Complex should be completely built-out by July 1999. Numerous options for 1, 2 and 3 bedroom units, with or without gas fireplace. I rented the smallest unit they have but it is very, very nice and quite roomy for one person.

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$825/MONTH; Security Deposit: None, but nonrefundable "move-in" fee of \$250.00; Average Utility Bill/month: \$75.00 (includes

electricity, gas and water); Average Phone/month: \$15.00; Cable TV/month: \$78.00
Basic and Expanded Service and lots of movie channels.

FEATURES: 1 Bedroom, 1 bath, full kitchen, dining/living area (650) square feet total),
electronic access gates, garages and storage rooms available on a month to month
basis, gorgeous clubhouse with pool room, conference room, lounge, fitness center,
computer room, showers and bathrooms, lighted tennis court, outdoor pool; beautifully
landscaped grounds and children's play area; cats are allowed (nonrefundable deposit
required), but no dogs.

PARKING: Outside, at each apartment unit or optional one-car garage (\$125.00/month)

NEIGHBORHOOD: Fairfax County just off I-95, across the street from Springfield Mall
(Macy's, Penny's Sports Authority, Movie Theaters). Lots of restaurants and stores
(some quite unique) within a short walking distance. Safe community, with lots of things
to do.

COMMENTS: Great get-away for my wife and kids to visit on weekends (only 135 miles
from my real home). They love the close proximity to the Mall and other adjacent
shops. Easy access to I-95 and 395 for those days I want to drive to work early and
leave late.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Jeffrey Parker

CENTER: Host Center - Headquarters, Home Center – Langley Research Center

Oakton, VA

2001/2002 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Townhouse

STREET ADDRESS: 3161 Bradford Wood Ct.

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Oakton, VA 22124

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: private owner

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 1 hr

METRORAIL STOP: Vienna

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$ 180 (parking & Metro)

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: 4 B/R, 3.5 BA, 3-level townhouse

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$1,895 and \$50 maintenance; Security Deposit: One-
Month Rent; Average Utility Bill/Month: \$ 170 (Electricity, Gas, Water); Average

Phone/Month: \$ 45; Cable TV/Month: \$ 30

FEATURES: 4 B/R, 3.5 BA, good-size kitchen, LR, DR, FR, fireplace, laundry,
basement, storage

NEIGHBORHOOD: quiet townhouse complex, nearby park, rec center, 1.5 mile to
Metro station

MANAGEMENT: private owner

COMMENTS: Good deal for a family with kids, good school system, convenient access
to everything, commuting time is a little bit long

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Chan Kim

CENTER: Glenn Research Center

Vienna, VA

2001/2002 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Merry Oaks Court

STREET ADDRESS: 8013 Merry Oaks Court

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Vienna, VA. 22182

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: NA

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 50 minutes

METRORAIL STOP: Dunn Loring-Merryfield (Orange Line)

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$110

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: Multi-level townhouse

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$2000; Security Deposit: \$2000; Average Utility

Bill/Month: Power \$85; Average Phone/Month: \$25; Cable TV/Month: NA

FEATURES: 3 bedroom 2.5 bathrooms. Garage, alarm system, washer/dryer, fireplace.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Quiet, clean, and safe. 1.5 miles from Metro stop.

MANAGEMENT: Private owner

COMMENTS: Very convenient to bus and Metro service.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Adam West

CENTER: Kennedy Space Center

Life in the Burbs - Vienna & Oakton

For those program participants who come to Headquarters and bring their family with kids, Vienna & Oakton might work fine. There are plenty of good size town homes and apartments. In general, rent is cheaper than areas like Arlington and Crystal City and public school system is excellent. Vienna/Fairfax Metro station (Orange Line) is well within the reach of Metro Bus System that serves pretty much everywhere in the city. Commuting time from the station to the Headquarters is about 40 minutes.

Another way of going to work in less time would be doing the car pool (all lanes at I-66 is HOV during rush hours). Within 10-15 minutes of drive, all the necessary stuff to live comfortably can be acquired (shopping malls, grocery stores, auto shops, movie theaters, etc.). Many town homes around the metro station are within walking distance and owners keep those for rental income. There are many advantages with these town homes such as no need of car, savings in parking fees, etc. Since some real estate agents also list rental properties, it would save time by working with them if interested in finding town homes around the metro station.

MD AREA HOUSING

North Bethesda. MD

2002/2003 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Strathmore Court at White Flint
STREET ADDRESS: 5440 Marinelli Road
CITY, STATE, ZIP: North Bethesda, MD 20852
RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: (301) 468-5460
DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 45 minutes
METRORAIL STOP: White Flint (Red Line)
TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$171
DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: 4 story, 3 building complex
PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$1750; Security Deposit: \$300; Average Utility
Bill/Month: Power \$85; Average Phone/Month: \$25; Cable TV/Month: NA
FEATURES: 2 bedroom 2 bathrooms. Underground garage parking (included),
washer/dryer.
NEIGHBORHOOD: Quiet, clean, and safe. 1 1/2 Blocks from Metro stop.
MANAGEMENT: The Bozzuto Group (www.bozzuto.com)
COMMENTS: Very convenient to bus (Metrobus & Montgomery County Ride-on) and
Metrorail service.
THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:
NAME: Anthony R. Guillory
CENTER: Marshall Space Flight Center

College Park, MD

1997/1998 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: College Park Towers
STREET ADDRESS: 4330 Hartwick Road
CITY, STATE, ZIP: College Park, MD 20740
COUNTY: Prince George
RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: ???
DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: About 65 minutes
METRORAIL STOP: College Park (Green line) to Federal Center SW (either Orange or
Blue lines).
TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$4.60/day. \$101.20/month at 22 working days
per month.
DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: This complex is a six-story building. It is very
similar to a typical college dormitory.
PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$1000 per month; Security Deposit: None; Average
Utility bill/month: None; Average Phone/month: My phone bill was around \$40/month.
Cable TV/month: Did not order cable TV during my visit.
FEATURES: This apartment has a pool.
PARKING: There are parking spaces available for a fee, since I did not own a car during
my visit, I'm not sure how much they charge.
NEIGHBORHOOD: Most of the buildings around this location are apartments. Most of
the residents are college students from University of Maryland. The apartment is very
close to the main campus --- about 2 blocks. There are several bars, restaurants, and
shops all within 2 blocks to this apartment.
MANAGEMENT: Typical apartment management.

COMMENTS: This building is very noisy. In particular, after major exams, you can expect parties to continue through 3 a.m.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Peter Tschen

CENTER: Glenn Research Center

ARC AREA HOUSING

TO: Resident Staff

FROM: Gus Gold, Acting Assistant Director, Center Operations, Code J

SUBJECT: Availability of Military Family Housing to NASA Personnel

Beginning FY01, the Army Corps of Engineers assumed responsibility for operation of the military family housing facility located adjacent to NASA Ames Research Center. This housing is authorized for use by accompanied, active duty military personnel with assignments in the commute area. Although, the Army's survey of military family housing needs shows enough demand for all the housing located at Moffett Field, it is not currently being fully utilized. The Corps and ARC have created an agreement for some use of two and three bedroom family units excess to DOD needs by NASA personnel.

This agreement includes provisions for ARC to sponsor housing for academicians, researchers and engineers and their families who come to work at ARC from other locations for a finite period of time. Also, once these mission needs are met, the Army will accommodate permanently assigned NASA civil service personnel with families in remaining available units. The core of the agreement is that housing units will be available unless or until they are needed to fill military housing requirements. Therefore, the number and types of units available to ARC individuals will fluctuate over time.

Due to the high cost and low availability of housing in our area, ARC often has difficulty attracting academicians and detailees from other Centers to work at ARC temporarily. It has also become extremely difficult to attract new hires who do not already live in the area. The agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers provides the Center with a means to address this problem.

In response to this opportunity, the Center has established a policy for use of available military family housing which is consistent with Army housing regulations and the agreement concluded between ARC and the Corps. Under the policy, the following categories of personnel who are accompanied by spouse and or children and need housing for at least 6 months are eligible to be considered:

- Detailees from other NASA Centers (including Development Program Participants and other programs)

- Fresh-out and new hire civil servants
 - NASA civil servants permanently assigned to ARC
- Academia engaged in collaborative work requiring their presence at ARC.
Post doctoral and other graduate level students working on NASA programs
Interagency Personnel Agreement (IPA) detailees

(Note: Active duty military personnel assigned duty at ARC are provided housing under standard DOD procedures)

Unaccompanied personnel (not living with family) and non-civil service personnel other than NASA sponsored academia and IPA detailees are, by DOD regulation, not eligible to be considered for family housing.

The terms of usage as agreed to between ARC and the Corps of Engineers are:

- Minimum stay is 6 months. Preference is for at least one year of occupancy. Army policy is to provide one-year "lease" followed by month-to-month thereafter. Maximum occupancy is 3 years. Non-active duty military may be given notice to vacate to accommodate military need after the first year.
- Army housing management has authority to determine the terms of occupancy. Authorized NASA sponsored individuals must abide by applicable Army housing regulations, policies and practices. Generally, Army rules are designed to maintain a safe, orderly, family-friendly "neighborhood." ARC requires its sponsored housing occupants to comply with Army policies. Continued or serious nonconformance with these policies may result in termination of occupancy.
- All civil servant personnel will pay rent directly to the Army. The Army will require creation of a payroll automatic withdrawal for payment of rent. NASA-sponsored non-civil servants will pay monthly rent to the NASA Exchange.
- Army sets rents, in accordance with Army regulations.
- The assigned housing unit must be the dependents' primary residence during the assignee's stay in family housing. Army regulations will determine eligibility in shared custody cases. Individuals discovered to be living without dependents will be required to vacate premises.
- Occupants will provide the Army as much notice of intended termination as practicable. A minimum of 30 days notice is required. ARC management will determine the priorities for NASA use of available family housing based on mission requirements.

A. Application for housing:

- (1) Any eligible person may apply for housing
- (2) Apply by email message to lbraund@mail.arc.nasa.gov

- (a) Name of applicant
- (b) Sponsor (if category "a" through "c" applicant)
- (c) Org Code (if civil servant; ARC sponsor's Org Code)
- (d) Family members who will reside with you (name/relationship)
- (e) Desired start date
- (f) Planned end date (three year maximum)
- (g) Work phone number
- (h) Email address

(3) Applications will be placed on the Ames waiting list based on ARC priority

B. Assignment:

(1) ARC management will prioritize applicants using the following methodology:

- a. Individuals in eligibility categories a through d will be prioritized by name based on mission criticality
- b. Fresh-out and new hire individuals will be considered next
- c. Permanently assigned NASA civil servants will be considered for any remaining available housing. When there are more applicants than available housing, assignments will be made by lottery

(2) ARC will provide names of authorized housing users to Army

(3) Authorized individuals then work with Army housing office for assignment

(4) Army determines actual unit assignment based on Army criteria. As stated above, rental rates are set by Army regulations and are not subject to NASA influence or negotiation. For rental to non-active duty military, the rates are required to reflect "market value" for the type and quality of apartment. The market value is determined using methods prescribed by DOD. The current rate for a 2-bedroom unit is \$900 per month and the rent for a 3-bedroom unit is \$1,200 per month.

Currently, the Corps of Engineers has made only about a dozen units available to ARC, so it is anticipated that there will be more demand than supply. If you qualify under the criteria described above and are seriously interested in renting a unit if available, please provide the information requested above by email to Linda Braund, (lbraund@mail.arc.nasa.gov) right away. To be considered for the initial list of eligibles, submit by July 27, 2001. Names will continue to be accepted after that date for placement on the waiting list.

If you would like to respond to this memo electronically, you may do so by clicking on the following: lbraund@mail.arc.nasa.gov

Residence Inn by Marriott Los Altos, CA

Our new, latest-generation Residence Inn by Marriott has become a premier preferred hotel choice for many companies in Silicon Valley. We believe a hotel shouldn't be just a place to sleep at night while away from home, but also an extension of one's work, home, and life. We cater to today's modern, high-tech travelers by providing:

- Complimentary T-1 internet access in each living quarters of a spacious suite (473 sq/ft and w/ firm, upgraded mattresses)
- Latest-generation Residence Inn (3-floors & built from ground up December of last year) w/ interior corridors & electronic key entrance to the building (for added security)
- Full kitchen & refrigerator, separate living area
- Complimentary gated underground parking in addition to the ground-level parking (for added peace of mind)
- Immaculate, tranquil hotel grounds w/ stroll trail and w/ convenience of major street (El Camino Real)
- 24-hour access to the bright, windowed fitness center w/ latest equipments
- Complimentary fax, printer, and Xerox at the 24-hour business center w/ new computers w/ T-1 internet
- Government per diem rates & listed on GSA value hotel list
- All these extra features plus complimentary hot breakfast buffet daily & extended dinner service w/ beverages (to help cut out-of-pocket expenses)

NASA travelers will also enjoy our unparalleled service level: we are ranked #1 in the Western Region (#4 nationwide) among over 400 Residence Inns nationwide in Marriott Guest Satisfaction Survey.

I've attached promotional coupons in PDF format for your review. Please feel free to reach with me any questions, especially on how to maximize on savings offered by them. Also don't hesitate to let me know for actual coupons by mail. Meanwhile, please take a virtual tour of our beautiful hotel grounds at www.losaltosresidenceinn.com <<http://www.losaltosresidenceinn.com/>> . I thank you and hope to hear from you soon for hotel needs in NASA/AMES area.

Regards,

Daniel Lee
Sales Manager
Residence Inn--Palo Alto/Los Altos
4460 El Camino Real
Los Altos, CA 94022
650-949-8364

F.650-559-7891

daniel.lee@losaltosresidenceinn.com

GRC HOUSING

LAKEFRONT House for Rent (on Lake Erie)

33316 Bonnieview Drive, Avon Lake, OH 44012

\$1800/mo + deposit

35 minute commute to NASA Glenn Research Center

3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 2 Car Garage, Fireplace, Appliances, C/A

Large fenced backyard, Dock, (boating, fishing, swimming), Sunset views

No pets, no smokers, 10 minutes from schools and shopping, Peaceful suburban setting
(Owner relocated to NASA HQ)

For more information contact: Fran Chiaramonte: (202) 358-0693 or (301) 908-0290



JPL HOUSING

Pasadena, California

2002/2003 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: N/A

STREET ADDRESS: 210 Linda Rosa Avenue

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Pasadena, CA 91107-3230

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: 626-429-3678 (e-mail: bettyrs@earthlink.net)

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 15 minutes (7 non-highway miles to JPL)

METRORAIL STOP: N/A

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: ???

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: Betty owns apartments in Pasadena that she rents out on a month-to-month basis to folks from JPL/NASA and Cal Tech. I have described the apartment I am renting below, but she has others (including shares that are cheaper).

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$1275 (two bedroom furnished); Security Deposit: \$1275

Average Utility Bill/Month: ???; Average Phone/Month: ???; Cable TV/Month: ???

FEATURES: Furnished apartment, off-street parking, laundry on-site.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Quiet, about 1-1/2 to 2 miles from Old Pasadena

MANAGEMENT: Betty Shultz

COMMENTS: Betty is a former JPLer herself and likes renting to the "NASA Family". She was very pleasant to deal with, and her normal way of renting is month-to-month, which is ideal for a developmental assignment.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Jim O'Donnell

CENTER: Goddard Space Flight Center

JSC AREA HOUSING

Houston, TX

1997/1998 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Las Palmas Luxury Apartments

STREET ADDRESS: 1400 El Camino Village Drive

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Houston, Texas 77058

COUNTY: Harris County, Texas

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: (281) 286-5100

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 15 minutes

METRORAIL STOP: N/A

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$30.00

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: The Las Palmas Apartments provide a very nice living environment. The grounds are well kept, with a community building, weight room,

swimming pool, centrally located mailboxes, and plenty of palm trees, grass, and fountains.

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: Single bedroom \$800.00; Security Deposit: \$250.00; Average Utility bill/month: \$40.00; Average Phone/month: \$15.00; Cable TV/month: \$24.95 (basic)

FEATURES: Each apartment has its own one-car garage with two garage door remotes provided. The architecture is orange-pink stucco with Spanish tile roof, and the entrance to the community has a 24-hour guard with a wrought iron gate. The appointments inside the apartments are also very nice; large bathtub, washer-dryer, microwave, and ceiling fans. Each apartment has its own small balcony and plenty of closet space. The community is centrally located near Clear Lake City; approximately 25 miles south of the Houston skyscrapers, 15 miles south of Houston Hobby airport, close to the University of Houston, Clear Lake campus, within 15, 25, or 45 minutes driving time to some very nice shopping malls, grocery stores within a few minutes drive, and NASA Johnson Space Center is approximately 2.5 miles away. You can even hear the train whistle in the distance as it runs through town at night.

PARKING: Individual garages with each apartment

NEIGHBORHOOD: Quiet and secluded

MANAGEMENT: Very friendly and helpful

COMMENTS: The only problem I have had living at Las Palmas is a slow response in getting a leaking ceiling in the bedroom fixed. Apparently, they have to go to a contractor and wait for them to come and fix the roof. The problem first appeared in mid-October 1997 and the problem persists as of mid-January 1998. I'm using a bucket to catch the water, which is an aggravation. Other than this problem, the apartment is very comfortable. In addition, Harris County, Texas has one of the highest automobile insurance rates in the country. I am paying approximately two times the rate that I pay in Northern Virginia. There has also been some incidences of non-residents causing disturbances around the complex; however, the Las Palmas Apartment management is always quick to provide notice to the residents whenever these events occur.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: John P. Lynch

CENTER: Johnson Space Center

1997/1998 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Hidden Lake Apartments

STREET ADDRESS: 900 Henderson Ave. Apt. 807

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Houston, TX 77058

COUNTY: Harris County

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: 281-333-9495

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 15 minutes one-way during rush hour (2.5 miles)

METRORAIL STOP: N/A

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$31

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT:

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$530; Security Deposit: \$150; Average Utility bill/month: \$26.84; Average Phone/month: basic service is \$22.81, with long distance it is \$86.61

Cable TV/month: \$26.79; Furniture rental with Court Furniture Rental (713-468-5411) on Highway 3 and Bay Area Blvd. for 1 bedroom apt./month: \$124.96

FEATURES: Outdoor pool, hot tub, and sand volleyball. Indoor weight and exercise room. If needed, they will fumigate once a week for free. Apt. has its own washer, dryer, microwave, dishwasher, disposal, refrigerator, stove, and balcony. It is carpeted and has ceiling fans in the bedroom and the living room.

PARKING: Free for cars and boats.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Friendly and safe.

MANAGEMENT: Good, friendly, and helpful.

COMMENTS: Well landscaped and kept clean.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Carlos Liceaga

CENTER: Johnson Space Center

LaRC AREA HOUSING

Poquoson, VA

2001/2002 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Rental Home

STREET ADDRESS: 93 River Road

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Poquoson, VA 23662

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: N/A

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 10 Minutes

METRORAIL STOP: N/A

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: Low

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: Three-bedroom/two bath home with view of the water.

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$900; Security Deposit: \$900; Average Utility Bill/Month: \$130; Average Phone/Month: \$30; Cable TV/Month: \$36

FEATURES:

NEIGHBORHOOD: Poquoson is a small town on the Chesapeake Bay just outside the back gate of LaRC. It is quiet and the people are friendly. The schools are excellent. Poquoson has some local stores and eateries, but malls, shopping centers, and lots of restaurants are only 10 to 20 minutes away. Highly recommend Poquoson if you are bringing your family.

MANAGEMENT: Private Rental

COMMENTS: I rented from another class member, so I doubt that this specific home will be available in the future. However, other three bedroom homes in Poquoson can be found in this price range, and four bedroom homes can be rented for \$100 - \$300 more per month.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Andy Prince

CENTER: Marshall Space Flight Center

1998/1999 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: POQUOSON/Forrest Park

STREET ADDRESS: 104 Rowe Drive

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Poquoson, VA 23662

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: We found our rental on the Daily Press Home Page. We did contact several real estate companies with listings. GSH Residential Real Estate, Hampton, VA 23666

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 1.5 miles/4 minutes

METRORAIL STOP: NA

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: 1.5 miles one-way to work; about 4 minutes each way. Wythe Creek Road is very busy through Poquoson, sometimes it is difficult to enter and exit the road at our development.

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: Single family homes - nice, quite community with starter homes. Some children, lots of trees, backs up to woods. The development is about 30 years old..

MONTH RENTAL COST: \$975; Security Deposit: one month's rent (\$975.00/month)

Average Utility Bill/month: Virginia Power - about \$90.00, Virginia Natural Gas about \$80.00. Average Phone/month: Bell Atlantic basic bill is about \$25.00 (not including long distance). Cable TV/month: extended basic cable with Cox Cable is about \$28.00, basic cable is about \$8.00.

FEATURES: The house has 4 bedrooms, 2 ½ baths, kitchen with garbage disposal, electric stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, washer and dryer hook ups, living room, dining room, family room, fireplace, small patio, fenced yard, 2 car garage, gas water heater and furnace. Utilities to pay - sewer, wastewater electric, gas, telephone, cable available

NEIGHBORHOOD: There are 2 grocery stores about .5 miles away and 3 more within 4 miles. The schools in Poquoson, I hear, receive good test scores. The library is about .5 miles away. Two shopping malls and many movie theatres are within 6 miles. It is located near the water. Sometimes flooding is a concern in the area. Some warn that east of Little Florida Road is low lying and flooding can be expected, especially during a hurricane.

MANAGEMENT: Our landlord lives in Idaho Falls, ID. We have not spoken with him since the initial few weeks of getting settled.

COMMENTS: For LaRC, there is a wide area you can choose to live and you should base it on what kind of commute time and traffic you want to deal with. There is a wide range of rent prices and housing variety in all areas. Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, etc. are located across the James River, which requires traveling through a tunnel or over a bridge. Commuting from across the James River requires at least a 30-minute commute. The James River Bridge is a drawbridge and has scheduled openings. The I-64 tunnel, which is used if coming from Virginia Beach and parts of Norfolk gets tied up at certain hours and if there is an accident. The I-664 tunnel does not get as much congestion. Commuting from the Middle Peninsula is a half-hour commute. If you live over the York River, you must cross the Coleman Bridge, which is a toll bridge. Williamsburg is about a 30-minute drive on I-64. Hampton, Newport News, Poquoson and York County have a maximum commute of 20 minutes. It is all

city driving. There is no worry about parking and it should be assumed that you will commute using your own car, motorcycle, etc. There is a wide variety of housing options, so try to narrow down a little about what type of housing you are looking for before you come. However, do not count on or count out an area before you have seen it.

Rentals especially houses come and go very quickly. This is a transient area with military coming and going. Once a place is listed it may be snatched in 20 minutes. We had a more difficult time because we had 2 dogs with us. We did our house-hunting trip in June, right after the orientation. If you don't find a place that will become available about the time you would like to move here you must be willing to pay for the time they would like you to move in or not get the rental.

They are not willing to hold it because they know there are many people out there looking to rent. We did not find something right away so Al flew back up to look again in July. The Daily Press home page was helpful in tracking listings. We called most of the real estate agents to get listings and they were helpful in weeding out the ones that didn't meet all of our requirements but you must recheck with them that they are getting all of your requirements.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Al and Carolyn Mariano

CENTER: Kennedy Space Center - on assignment at Langley Research Center

1997/1998 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: N/A

STREET ADDRESS: 104 Lee Avenue

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Poquoson, VA 23662

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: 868 – 0000 Caldwell Banker Suburban (Poquoson)

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 9 minutes, 10 if you have to wait at the traffic light

METRORAIL STOP: N/A

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: negligible

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: Single-family home

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$1100/month; Security Deposit: one-months rent;

Average Utility bill/month: \$150; Average Phone/month: \$30; Cable TV/month: \$30

FEATURES: Four bedroom, two story house; screened back porch, big yard fenced for a dog, lots of trees (lots of leaves to rake up in the fall). Central air conditioning and heat, fireplace.

PARKING: 2-car garage

NEIGHBORHOOD: Pleasant, quiet neighborhood with no through traffic. Poquoson offers a small-town atmosphere, excellent schools. School buses stop within a block of our front door.

MANAGEMENT: Caldwell Banker Suburban office in Poquoson.

COMMENTS: We went house hunting in June and primarily focused on houses in Poquoson and York County. The Caldwell Banker office Poquoson was very helpful to us providing lots of potential properties to look at as well as lots of useful information about the area. They indicated that many rental homes become available in June and July as families move, but the selection thins out by August.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Bob Curry

CENTER: Dryden Flight Research Center

Hampton,VA

1997/1998 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Regent's Walk Condominium Community

STREET ADDRESS: 6G Tamarisk Quay

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Hampton, VA 23666

COUNTY: cities aren't in counties in this area

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: units are privately owned. I rent through GSH Residential Real Estate, 6056 Providence Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23464

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME:

METRORAIL STOP: not applicable

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: 5.3 miles one way to work; about 10 minutes each way

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: Nice, quite condo community with units in pod formations with landscaped lawns separating them. The development is about 10 years old. My unit has 2 bedrooms, 2 ½ baths, kitchen with garbage disposal, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, full sized washer and dryer, living and dining combination, fireplace, small patio, outside storage room, all electric appliances, water and sewage furnished.

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$645; Security Deposit: first and last months' rent (\$645.00/month); Average Utility bill/month: Virginia Power – about \$90.00

Average Phone/month : Bell Atlantic basic bill is about \$25.00 (not including long distance); Cable TV/month: basic cable with Cox Cable is \$10.82

FEATURES: If pool or tennis courts are desired, Regent's Walk shares with the Hampton Woods Townhouse community next door. Regent's Walk is adding digital satellites for TV service. Lawns and grounds are well maintained with trees, flowers, and shrubs.

PARKING: Parking spaces are outside the front door with spaces reserved for residents and ample extras for visitors.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Regent's Walk is in a nicely situated quiet, family-oriented area with most units owner-occupied. It is next door to two shopping centers that include a supermarket, several quick food restaurants, a video rental, a bank, a gas station, a newly (being) built theater complex, is near a library branch, and several churches and schools. There are also other town house complexes single-family dwellings nearby in Hampton Woods and Michael's Woods. It is centrally located 1 mile from interstate, 4 miles from the Coliseum Mall and shopping centers, 5 miles from Patrick Henry Mall, and about 5 miles from Langley Research Center. There is also a couple of nice hiking trails (city owned, thus free), a nature preserve, golf course, and health club within 3 to 4 miles.

MANAGEMENT: GSH Real Estate has handled any problems I have had and has been very responsive. I had a little plumbing problem that appeared when I moved in. The condo community provides a nice newsletter about what is going on in the community.

COMMENTS: I'll be glad to discuss my experiences finding a place with anyone who desires. Also, if anyone is visiting in this area, I'll be glad to show them about a little as well as show them my condo. From my experience, good rentals go fast and the best time to find something is during the last week of the month or the first week of the month. The local newspaper, the Daily Press, has an Internet address www.hamptonroads.digitalcity.com. The rental information is listed under the classified section. Phone numbers and deposit information for utilities, cable, etc. for the area is located at <http://www.abel-info.com/regguide/utility.html>. General information on the Hampton Roads area is located at www.abel-info.com/regguide/reglink.html. (Hampton Roads includes the Virginia peninsula area that includes the cities of Hampton, Newport News, Williamsburg, Yorktown, Poquoson, Norfolk, and others, as well as the surrounding counties of York, City of James, etc.) There are nice places to live all about this area that are convenient to work, including places on the water. I can send a map and other information to anyone interested.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Dorthy Hubbard

CENTER: Marshall Space Flight Center

Newport News, VA

1997/1998 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Greg Garrett Realty

STREET ADDRESS: 410 Pam Lane

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Newport News, VA 23602

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: 757-873-0021

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 30 minutes

METRORAIL STOP: N/A

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: 22 miles round trip

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: Single Family Home

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$865.00; Security Deposit: \$865 + \$300 per pet;

Average Utility bill/month: \$130; Average Phone/month: \$35; Cable TV/month: \$30

FEATURES: 3 Bedroom/2 ½ bath/Garage/Fireplace in family room/Living/Dining

PARKING: Single car garage and driveway

NEIGHBORHOOD: Nice quiet cul-de-sac. Good for kids or pets.

MANAGEMENT: O.K.

COMMENTS:

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Debbie Morris

CENTER: Langley Research Center

MSFC AREA HOUSING

Madison, AL

2001/2002 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Residential home

STREET ADDRESS:

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Madison, AL 35758

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: M&M Services

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: Before 9/11, only 20-25 minutes by car. After 9/11, 30-35 minutes on average with some days taking 45 minutes or longer with increased security

METRORAIL STOP: N/A

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: \$20

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: Private residence being rented from another NASA employee on a diverse assignment

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$1195; Security Deposit: \$1000; Average Utility

Bill/Month: \$145 (For Power, Gas, And Water); Average Phone/Month: \$22

Cable TV/Month: \$30 For Expanded, \$9 For Basic

FEATURES: 3/2/2 with large yard

NEIGHBORHOOD: Great residential community with lots of kids and great schools

MANAGEMENT: M&M services

COMMENTS: I found this house through the Huntsville Times on-line and phone calls. I also got a copy of the "Apartment Guide" from the local Chamber of Commerce as well as a local phone book. I might have found this same house by calling the Host Center office/personnel office to ask if anyone is going to be away from the Center on a yearlong assignment. The fit was great because the times overlapped well and both the renter and I feel we can talk with each other directly without hassling with the management services about little things like mail and "how do you program the thermostat." Some useful phone numbers and Web sites are: Huntsville Chamber of Commerce (256) 535-2000; <http://www.hsvchamber.org/>. Madison Chamber of Commerce (256) 461-0518; <http://www.madisonchamber.com/>.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Richard Kuhns

CENTER: Kennedy Space Center

OTHER AREA HOUSING

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO AREA HOUSING

2002/2003 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: Oasis Apartments

STREET ADDRESS: 1495 Farnham Pt.

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Colorado Springs, CO 80904

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE: 888-843-6222 or (719) 520-0800

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 20-25 minutes

METRORAIL STOP: N/A

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: gas cost only

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: Professional apartment development with gated entrance, 1-3 bedrooms, condominium-like buildings, approx. 10 units per building, 2-3 stories, most units have garage and fireplace, 252 units, built in 1997, 24-hour fitness center, club house, hot tub, pool, air conditioning, most units have garages and fireplaces. They welcome small pets and have incredible view of Pikes Peak and Garden of the Gods Park. <http://www.gbrents.com/>

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$716; Security Deposit: \$225; Average Utility Bill/Month: \$50-75; Average Phone/Month: ; Cable TV/Month:

FEATURES: washers and dryers, microwave, 9' ceilings, walk-in closet. dual vanity in bath, private patio, balcony.

NEIGHBORHOOD: Sits atop a mesa. Nearest neighborhood within driving distance but those are very upscale. A high school is across the street

MANAGEMENT: GriffsIBlessing, Inc.

COMMENTS: The management is very flexible and accommodating. The views are spectacular.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Tern Hudkins

CENTER: Headquarters

PAX RIVER NAVAL AIR STATION AREA HOUSING

Lexington Park, MD

2001/2001 Program Participant

COMPLEX/DEVELOPMENT: SpyGlass

STREET ADDRESS: 21636 SpyGlass Way #402D

CITY, STATE, ZIP: Lexington Park, MD 20653

RENTAL OFFICE PHONE:

DOOR-TO-DOOR AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME: 5 minutes (to Pax River NAS)

METRORAIL STOP: none

TOTAL MONTHLY COMMUTING COST: minimal

DESCRIPTION OF COMPLEX/UNIT: Very nice. Best in the area in my opinion. Nice trail to beach.

PER MONTH RENTAL COST: \$1110 for 2 bdrm/1bath including furniture rental

Security Deposit: None; Average Utility Bill/Month: ~\$50; Average Phone/Month: ~\$40
Cable TV/Month: ?

FEATURES: swimming pool (summer only), tennis courts (under construction), very small fitness room, and path to private beach.

NEIGHBORHOOD: rural

MANAGEMENT: good

COMMENTS: We chose this complex because it's most like apts. in California.

THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY:

NAME: Megan McCluer

HOME CENTER: Ames Research Center

Living Near The Naval Air Station at Patuxent River, Maryland

If you are like one of the adventurous participants in the 2001/2002 class and are planning to move to the world's busiest flight test center at the Naval Air Systems Command at Patuxent River, MD for your assignment, then the following Web sites should provide you with a lot of the information you will need to consider before moving to the garden spot of Southern Maryland.

First the main Naval Air Station site can be found at: <http://nas.nawcad.navy.mil/>. Next there is the site for the Naval Air Station Museum: <http://www.paxmuseum.com/>. Another site that provides good, general information on Southern Maryland: <http://www.somd.com/>. Finally, there is a site with information about relocating and moving to Southern Maryland: <http://www.somd.com/relocate/>.

**Angie Lee updated this chapter.
Please contact her at 202-358-0799 for more information.**

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